

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 17870 061052Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----082967 061055Z /21

O 061038Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2678
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T PARIS 17870

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, EFIN, SHUM, CG
SUBJECT: PARIS MEETING: SECURITY AND REFORM

1. IN ADDITION TO THE QUESTION OF ZAIRE'S URGENT IMPORT REQUIREMENTS (SPETEL), THE PARIS MEETING RAISED TWO OTHER SPECIFIC PROBLEMS WHICH THE PARTICIPATING GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE TO ADDRESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. FIRST, THE FRENCH MADE A STRONG PLEA FOR CONTINUED LOGISTICAL SUPPORT TO THE SHABA AFRICAN FORCE, BEYOND THE INITIAL AIRLIFT. WE, THE BRITISH, THE GERMANS AND THE BELGIANS MADE NO COMMITMENTS AND POINTED OUT THAT IN ANY EVENT NO DETAILS AS TO REQUIREMENTS WERE AVAILABLE. THE FRENCH COUNTER-PROPOSED THAT A PERMANENT WORKING GROUP OF THE FIVE POWERS BE SET UP TO DETERMINE SUCH REQUIREMENTS AND TO PROVIDE ON-GOING LOGISTICAL SUPPORT. THIS SUGGESTION WAS RESISTED AND THE FRENCH FINALLY SAID THEY WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS WHEN THEY HAD MORE DETAILS.

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2. ON REFORMS, THERE WAS A STRONG CONSENSUS THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR THE WESTERN GOVERNMENTS TO JOINTLY LET MOBUTU KNOW THAT WE CONSIDERED CERTAIN MINIMUM REFORMS NECESSARY IF CONTINUED ASSISTANCE WAS TO BE FORTHCOMING AND EFFECTIVE. A WORKING GROUP WAS FORMED TO SET OUT THESE MINIMUM REFORMS WHICH COULD BE COMMUNICATED TO MOBUTU THROUGH A JOINT DEMARCHE

BY THE FIVE AMBASSADORS IN KINSHASA. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE IT WAS DECIDED THAT EACH DELEGATION WOULD SUBMIT THE AGREED WORKING DOCUMENT TO THE RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS FOR APPROVAL. SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS WILL DETERMINE THE TIMING AND MODALITIES OF THE DEMARCHE, WHICH IDEALLY WOULD TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE BRUSSELS MEETING.

3. THE DRAFT REFORM RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH WILL BE COMMUNICATED SEPARATELY, COVER

A) A POLICY OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

B) FULL PARTICIPATION OF ALL "REGIONAL ENTITIES" IN THE BODY POLITIC.

C) IMPROVEMENTS IN THE FUNCTIONING OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF GOVERNMENT.

D) DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES.

E) ECONOMIC REFORMS.

THESE GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS ARE SUPPLEMENTED WITH "ANNEXED" SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING (A), (B) AND (C) ABOVE, WHICH ARE DRAWN MAINLY FROM EMBASSY KINSHASA'S SUGGESTIONS. THE IDEA AT THIS POINT IS THAT THE JOINT DEMARCHE WOULD USE ONLY THE GENERAL CATEGORIES, LEAVING IT TO INDIVIDUAL AMBASSADORS TO USE THE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES IN THE ANNEX'

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4. THE REFORM EXERCISE AT THE PARLS MEETING WAS USEFUL IN THAT THE FIVE POWERS LAID OUT A COMMON CATALOGUE OF REFORMS, BUT THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS ON HOW THESE COULD BEST BE COMMUNICATED TO MOBUTU. IN SUM, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO FINALLY AGREE ON A SUFFICIENTLY STRONG MESSAGE TO MOBUTU THAT CAN BE PRESENTED BY A UNITED FRONT OF THE FIVE. WE WILL NEED TO DETERMINE WHETHER A JOINT OR SEPARATE APPROACH WILL BEST MEET OUR NEEDS.

HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECURITY, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MEETINGS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS17870
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780235-1091
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780691/aaaadaru.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8d086e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2476451
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PARIS MEETING: SECURITY AND REFORM
TAGS: PINS, EFIN, SHUM, CG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8d086e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014